



# Northern Spain and Portugal - 18 Days (#16333)

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **27-05-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

# **Overview**

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES ON FRIDAY.

The unique inclusions are:

- Sagrada Familia in Barcelona.
- Santiago Cathedral.
- Douro River Cruise and Port wine tasting).
- Welcome Tapas Experience dinner in Madrid.
- Visit to a traditional cellar and wine tasting in La Rioja.
- Pintxos Dinner in Bilbao.
- Dinner and cider tasting in traditional cider house in Oviedo
- Boat trip in Spanish fjords (rias Baixas) with mussels and wine tasting.







- Fado show and dinner in Lisbon.
- High-speed train Barcelona to Madrid.

# **Trip Highlights**

Barcelona-Madrid-Bilbao-Santander-Oviedo-Santiago de Compostela-Oporto-Fatima-Lisbon

# **Detailed Itinerary**

**Day 01** 

#### 1st Day (Fri.) BARCELONA

Arrival at the airport and transfer to your hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Accommodation at the hotel.

**Day 02** 

#### 2nd Day (Sat.) BARCELONA

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning city tour of Barcelona. Drive along the main avenues with its impressive Gaudi modernist buildings such as La Pedrera and Casa Milá. The Montjuïc Park with spectacular views of the city and harbor, Olympic Ring, monument to Columbus and the Olympic Port. Visit the most important landmark in the city of Barcelona, Sagrada Familia. Admire Gaudi's masterwork by the hand of your expert local guide. Afternoon at leisure.

Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 03** 

#### 3rd Day (Sun.) BARCELONA-MADRID

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the train station to take the high-speed train to Madrid. Arrival and transfer to your hotel. Accommodation.

Meal: Breakfast





17 Nights from AUD 5,432

**Day 04** 

#### 4th Day (Mon.) MADRID

Breakfast at the hotel. Discover the beauties of the city with a guided city tour. Barrio de la Morería, the Hapsburgs District, Plaza Mayor and Plaza de la Villa; the Madrid of the Bourbons and the complex town planning schemes of Charles III, the Royal Palace, Cibeles and Neptuno Fountains and the Puerta de Alcalá. The contemporary Madrid with areas such as Gran Vía, Castellana, the district of Salamanca, as well as commercial and financial areas of Modern Madrid, and the Santiago Bernabéu Football Stadium. Afternoon at leisure to continue exploring the wonders that the city has to offer. Join your fellow travelers for an authentic Welcome Tapas Dinner. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 05** 

#### 5th Day (Tue.) MADRID – BURGOS – LA RIOJA – BILBAO

Breakfast at the hotel. Depart towards Burgos. Free time to visit the 13th century gothic Cathedral, the third largest in Spain after Seville and Toledo. We will continue to Haro, in the heart of La Rioja, one of the most famous Spanish wine regions. Among the vineyards, we will visit a traditional and family run wine cellar. Take a taste of the world famous Rioja Reds. Depart to Bilbao. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 06** 

#### 6th Day (Wed.) BILBAO - SAN SEBASTIAN - BILBAO

Breakfast at the hotel. Take a Bilbao city tour and discover its most recent developments. Time at leisure for you to explore the esplanade where The Guggenheim Museum is located in order for you to admire this modern architectural building. Continue to San Sebastian in the afternoon, one of the most famous tourist destinations where they hold the International Film Festival. Panoramic city tour of this marvel style bourgeois city, seeing the extraordinary landscape dominated by the bay and the magnificent La Concha beach. We will approach Mount Igueldo, to contemplate the marvelous views of the city. Free time to stroll through this elegant city. Back in Bilbao, enjoy dinner at local restaurant to taste the famous typical "pintxos", Basque name for tapas. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast and Dinner







**Day 07** 

#### 7th Day (Thu.) BILBAO - CASTRO URDIALES - SANTANDER

Breakfast at hotel. Bound for Asturias, famous Green Spain, we will proceed to the old fishing village "Castro Urdiales". Time at leisure. Depart to Santander, a port city located between the sea and the mountains, well known for its Sardinero Beach. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 08** 

# 8th Day (Fri.) SANTANDER – SANTILLANA DEL MAR – COVADONGA – OVIEDO

Breakfast at hotel. Depart to Santillana del Mar, one of the most important historical artistic towns in Spain. It contains architectural treasures such as the Collegiate of Santa Juliana, a Jewel of the Romanesque Architecture in Cantabria. Continue to Covadonga, where you will have free time to see the Sanctuary and the Grotto where you will see the patroness of Asturias our Lady of Covadonga. In the afternoon, departure to Oviedo, where you will see on a series of hills the beauty of Saint Maria de Naranco Church, Jewel of the pre Romanic Asturian architecture. Free time to explore Oviedo, many of its streets are pedestrian, where you will be able to see World Heritage sites like The Cathedral, a splendid example of gothic Asturian architecture. Join your fellow travelers to dine at a traditional cider house. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 09** 

# 9th Day (Sat.) OVIEDO – MONDOÑEDO - LUGO – SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Breakfast at the hotel. Bound for Galician lands. On the way to Lugo, take a short stop at Mondoñedo. Time at leisure to visit the 13th century Cathedral and try the delicious "Mondoñedo cake". Continue to Lugo. Time at leisure to explore the Roman remains that still retains like its walls, declared World Heritage. We finally approach Santiago de Compostela's holly land, declared World Heritage, as it is the most important center of Christian Pilgrimages in Spain as the end of the Camino de Santiago. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 10** 

#### 10th Day (Sun.) SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA





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Breakfast at the hotel. Join a Santiago city tour where you will see the main square called Obradoiro and the Cathedral (entrance included) dedicated to the Apostle Santiago. Rest of the day at leisure to explore the narrow cobblestone streets. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 11** 

#### 11th Day (Mon.) SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA - RIAS BAJAS - PORTO

Breakfast at the hotel. Depart towards one of the most marvelous areas of Galicia, the Rias Bajas (Spanish Fjords). Continue to the Ria de Arosa, where will do a cruise, with tasting of the typical wines and mussels. Bound for the Portuguese border to reach Porto. Located along the Douro River estuary in northern Portugal, Porto is one of the oldest European towns, and proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 12** 

#### 12th Day (Tue.) PORTO

Breakfast at the hotel. Take a guided sightseeing tour of Porto. Admire the Cathedral, Stock Exchange building and Santa Clara church. Afterwards, enjoy a Douro River Cruise and discover famous Port Wine Cellars with a wine tasting experience included. Rest of day at leisure. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 13** 

#### 13th Day (Wed.) PORTO

Breakfast at the hotel. Day at leisure. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 14** 

### 14th Day (Thu.) PORTO – COIMBRA – FATIMA





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After breakfast, we depart to Coimbra, one of the oldest universities in Europe and the birthplace of Fado. Free time. Continue to Fatima. Center of the Christian Faith and World Pilgrimage Sanctuary with its impressive Basilica and the Cova da Iria, place where the Virgin Mary appeared, and the Chapel of the Apparitions, heart of the sanctuary, with the tombs of the three shepherds, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta. At night, possibility to attend the procession of the candles. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 15** 

#### 15th Day (Fri.) FATIMA - BATALHA - NAZARE - ALCOBAÇA - LISBON

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the Batalha Monastery, a masterpiece of Gothic and Manueline style considered a World Heritage place by UNESCO. Continue to the picturesque fishing town of Nazaré. Free time and continue to Alcobaça (World Heritage) with its Gothic church and Cistercian monastery, whose origins date back to the XII C. We continue to Lisbon. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 16** 

#### 16th Day (Sat.) LISBON

After breakfast, join a morning city sightseeing of the ancient Olissipo. Drive through its main squares and avenues, Belem Tower, Jeronimos Monastery, Monument to the Discoverers, Marquis of Pombal Square & Liberty Avenue. Afternoon at leisure for you to catch the nostalgic corners of Alfama Quarter, the old city gathered next to its Castle, with old buildings nested in narrow twisting "Ruas" full of color housing the genuine "tabernas". Join your fellow travelers and enjoy a typical Portuguese dinner visiting one of the oldest Fado venues in the city, also located in one of the most interesting cultural neighborhoods in the area. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 17** 

#### 17th Day (Sun.) LISBON - CACERES - MADRID

Breakfast. Departure to Caceres, considered as World Heritage place because of the city's blend of Roman, Islamic, Northern Gothic and Italian Renaissance architecture. Walk through its Plaza Mayor and the Old Town with its famous Medieval Quarter. Continue to Madrid. Accommodation at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

**Day 18** 

#### 18th Day (Mon.) MADRID

After breakfast at the hotel transfer to the airport. END OF OUR SERVICES.

Meal: Breakfast

#### **Inclusions**

Guided city tour with local guides in Barcelona (Sagrada Familia entrance included), Madrid, Bilbao, Santiago (Cathedral ticket included), Porto (including Douro River Cruise and Port wine tasting) & Lisbon / Daily breakfast / Welcome Tapas Experience dinner in Madrid / Wine tasting in La Rioja / Pintxos Dinner in Bilbao / Dinner and cider tasting in traditional cider house in Oviedo / Mussels and wine tasting in a Rias Baixas cruise / Fado show and dinner in Lisbon / English-speaking Tour director throughout the journey / High-speed train ticket in Tourist Class Barcelona to Madrid / Transportation in luxury coach / Accommodation at selected hotels / Private transfers from & to airport and from & to train station in Madrid and Barcelona / Travel insurance.

#### **Exclusions**

International Airfare

Visas

Meals other than those specified in the itinerary

Beverage during meals.

Personal expenses.

Any expenses not mentioned in the itinerary.

Tipping.

#### **Note**

Hotels Used Or Similar

Barcelona - Hesperia President or similar

Madrid- Hyatt Regency Madrid or similar



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Bilbao- Barceló Nervión, Occidental Bilbao or similar

**HOLIDAYS** 

Santander - Santemar or similar

Oviedo - AC Oviedo Forum, Exe Oviedo or similar

Santiago de Compostela - Eurostars Hotel, Exe Peregrino or similar

Oporto - Vila Galé Porto, Fenix Ipanema or similar

Fátima - Santa Maria, Aurea, Regina, Estrela or similar

Lisbon - Lutécia or similar

- (\*)Barcelona, Lisbon and Porto Local City Tax is not included, to be paid directly to the hotel.
- (\*) In the event that the panoramic tour of Madrid is not operated for technical reasons will be replaced by the Madrid Hopon Hop-off Bus 1 day instead.
- (\*) During the journey from Barcelona to Madrid, tour escort service is not available.

A Maximum of 24 Pax is required to operate the tour.

Optional tours are available on request.

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES ON FRIDAYS.

Important Note: "The published rates are "starting from" rates and may change based on the exact dates of travel at the time of booking."

# **Program Touring / Guide**

**Escorted Experience** 

# **Fixed-Departure**

24 May, 2024 4 Star AUD 5,432 P P twin share AUD 7,602 P P single ON REQUEST 07 Jun, 2024 4 Star AUD 7,243 P P twin share AUD 10,135 P P single ON REQUEST 4 Star
AUD 5,432 P P twin share
AUD 7,602 P P single
ON REQUEST





#### 17 Nights from AUD 5,432

28 Jun, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,243 P P twin share AUD 10,135 P P single ON REQUEST 12 Jul, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,748 P P twin share AUD 10,604 P P single ON REQUEST 26 Jul, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,748 P P twin share AUD 10,604 P P single SOLD OUT

09 Aug, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,748 P P twin share AUD 10,604 P P single SOLD OUT 23 Aug, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,748 P P twin share AUD 10,604 P P single ON REQUEST 30 Aug, 2024

4 Star

AUD 6,973 P P twin share AUD 9,544 P P single ON REQUEST

06 Sep, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,568 P P twin share AUD 10,459 P P single ON REQUEST 20 Sep, 2024

4 Star

AUD 6,519 P P twin share AUD 9,123 P P single ON REQUEST 27 Sep, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,243 P P twin share AUD 10,135 P P single ON REQUEST

04 Oct, 2024

4 Star

AUD 7,243 P P twin share AUD 10,135 P P single ON REQUEST 11 Oct, 2024

4 Star

AUD 6,519 P P twin share AUD 9,123 P P single ON REQUEST 18 Oct, 2024

4 Star
AUD 7,243 P P twin share
AUD 10,135 P P single
ON REQUEST

